

OWCP CASE STUDIES

Instructions: This is a small group exercise that focuses on Workers' Compensation issues blended with other personnel problems and required actions- just as they would be in your potential day-to-day events. Your group has 15 minutes to discuss your assigned case. The spokesperson for each group will provide that group's response.

CASE STUDY #1

Thursday morning, about 8:10 am. Joe, a mechanic, comes limping into the shop slowly, and kind of bent over.

You: "What happened, Joe?"

Joe: "My back is killing me! I think I need to go to the chiropractor."

You: "How did this happen?"

Joe: "I don't know... I might have strained it when I carried those truck batteries over to the dump earlier in the week."

You: "When was that?"

Joe: "I started cleaning 'em up Monday afternoon, but I still had about 20 left, so I finished up Tuesday morning. There were over 50 of them, and I had to take them all the way around the back of the warehouse."

You: "Do you remember when it started hurting?"

Joe: "Nah... I thought it was OK. It might have been a little stiff yesterday, but it didn't start hurting until this morning. Boy it's killing me now!"

You know Joe helped his son move into an apartment last evening, so you wonder!

DISCUSS:

- ✓ What are your immediate actions?
- ✓ Is this a work injury? Who will determine this?
- ✓ What is Joe's status now?
- ✓ What forms do you need?
- ✓ When does COP start?
- ✓ Where can/should Joe go for medical care?